



Proposed Bungalow Haven Historic District

The Historic District has been added to City's List Of Potential Historic Resources but has not been designated by the Historic Landmark Commission or City Council.

The Proposed Bungalow Haven Historic District is roughly bound by Victoria Street on the south, Colina Lane on the east, East Micheltorena Street and De la Vista Avenue on the north and Olive Street on the west.

INTRODUCTION

At the beginning of the twentieth century, bungalows took America by storm. The typical bungalow was a single-story structure suited to a warm climate, with verandas for outdoor entertainment, overhanging eaves and multiple windows to provide shade and cross-ventilation in the days before air conditioning. These small houses helped fulfill many Americans' wish to own their own home. With climate and economic opportunity drawing more people westward, homey Craftsman bungalows sprang up rapidly in California. The Ready-Cut Bungalow Company estimates it shipped over 40,000 bungalow kits to Southern California from 1910 through the 1920s. For about \$650 everything you needed to construct a bungalow would be delivered to your lot. Simple and affordable, the bungalow itself became a visual motif, along with citrus groves and palm trees, it was part of the California setting.



This Craftsman Bungalow is an excellent example of a typical Bungalow Haven home. Its wood siding, overhanging eaves, and expansive windows contribute to its Craftsman character.

HISTORY

Period of significance: 1900-1940

Extensive development did not occur within the proposed Bungalow Haven Historic District until after 1901, when the Southern Pacific Railroad Company completed the northern segment of the coastal railroad linking Los Angeles with Northern California. The completion of the railroad helped create an economic boom in Santa Barbara, largely tied to the expansion of the City's resort industry. This and other improvements, such as the construction of an expanded rail yard, the building or expansion of hotels, and the opening of the State Normal School in 1913, drew many workers to the city. Santa Barbara's population increased dramatically from 7,000 residents in 1900 to 34,000 in 1940. The Bungalow Haven Historic District was one of the neighborhoods that was home to the City's expanding working and lower middle class as it was within walking distance of downtown.

The neighborhood reflects changing trends in architecture, transportation and town planning. It was characterized by modest, one-story, bungalow, frame houses, most often designed in the Craftsman, Folk Victorian and Spanish Colonial Revival styles with intact early twentieth century streets, curbs, and sidewalks. The proposed district exemplifies the characteristics that typified Santa Barbara's early twentieth century working and middle class neighborhoods. Over half the houses in the proposed district are in the Craftman style, which was a typical trend in modest neighborhoods developing throughout the state during the early twentieth century. Retaining its essential integrity of setting, design, and association, the proposed district conveys the essential qualities of its period of significance and exemplifies the type of modestly scaled residential neighborhoods of early twentieth century Santa Barbara.



Above and below are two Craftsman bungalows in the Historic District .

